SHARP Companies

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SHARP Monthly Reader

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Q & A

Q: OSHA requires employers to report a work-related hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye within 24 hours. How does OSHA define "in-patient hospitalization"?

A: OSHA defines in-patient hospitalization as a formal admission to the in-patient service of a hospital or clinic for care or treatment. Treatment in an Emergency Room only is not reportable.

IMPORTANT!!!! Please Read this Notice

I would like to remind all of our SHARP companies that, although you are in SHARP and exempt from programmed OSHA Inspections, you are still required to report to OSHA, any injury that falls under the newest recordkeeping criteria.

In addition to the call to OSHA, please contact your SHARP Consultant or our office to notify us of the injury. Once OSHA verifies that you are an active SHARP site, they will defer to our office to complete the investigation.

If you do not follow the guidelines, you may be asked to withdraw from SHARP and reapply in one year.

Since implementation of the new reporting requirements, we have investigated 6 injuries at SHARP locations.

If you are in doubt, contact your SHARP consultant or our office and we will help you determine if the injury needs to be reported to OSHA.

Please take the Survey

Recently, you should have received an email request to complete a survey monkey. This survey is similar to one we did a few years ago. The intention of the survey is to gather data to indemnify the benefits and effectiveness of Kansas SHARP. If you haven't already done so, please complete the survey as soon as possible. If you did not receive the survey monkey notification, please contact your SHARP consultant or our office. The results of the survey will be posted in our newsletter. All company names will be kept anonymous.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PLH69QC

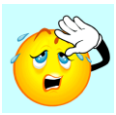
Q & A

Q: How does OSHA define “Amputation”?

A: An amputation is the traumatic loss of all or part of a limb or other external body part. This would include fingertip amputations with or without bone loss; medical amputations resulting from irreparable damage; and amputations of body parts that have since been reattached. If and when there is a health care professional's diagnosis available, the employer should rely on that diagnosis.

Heat Index	Risk Level
Less than 91 degrees F	Lower (Caution)
91 to 103 degrees F	Moderate
103 to 115 degrees F	High
Greater than 115 degrees F	Very High to Extreme

Occupational Heat Exposure



Every year, thousands of workers become sick from occupational heat exposure, and some even die. **These illnesses and deaths are preventable.**

Why is heat a hazard to workers?

When a person works in a hot environment, the body must get rid of excess heat to maintain a stable internal temperature. It does this mainly through circulating blood to the skin and through sweating.

When the air temperature is close to or warmer than normal body temperature, cooling of the body becomes more difficult. Blood circulated to the skin cannot lose its heat. Sweating then becomes the main way the body cools off. But sweating is effective only if the humidity level is low enough to allow evaporation and if the fluids and salts that are lost are adequately replaced.

If the body cannot get rid of excess heat, it will store it. When this happens, the body's core temperature rises and the heart rate increases. As the body continues to store heat, the person begins to lose concentration and has difficulty focusing on a task, may become irritable or sick, and often loses the desire to drink. The next stage is most often fainting and even death if the person is not cooled down.

Excessive exposure to heat can cause a range of heat-related illnesses, from heat rash and heat cramps to heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Heat stroke can result in death and requires **immediate medical attention**.

Exposure to heat can also increase the risk of injuries because of sweaty palms, fogged-up safety glasses, dizziness, and burns from hot surfaces or steam.

Who could be affected by heat?

Workers exposed to hot indoor environments or hot and humid conditions outdoors are at risk of heat-related illness, especially those doing heavy work tasks or using bulky or non-breathable protective clothing and equipment. Some workers might be at greater risk than others if they have not built up a tolerance to hot conditions, or if they have certain health conditions.

How do I know if it's too hot?

The temperature rises

Humidity increases

The sun gets stronger

There is no air movement

No controls are in place to reduce the impacts of equipment that radiates heat

Protective clothing or gear worn

Work is strenuous

The heat index, which takes both temperature and humidity into account, is a useful tool for outdoor workers and employers (see Using the Heat Index: A Guide for Employers).

How can heat-related illness be prevented?

Important ways to reduce heat exposure and the risk of heat-related illness include engineering controls, such as air conditioning and ventilation that make the work environment cooler, and work practices such as work/rest cycles, drinking water often, and providing an opportunity for workers to build up a level of tolerance to working in the heat. Employers should include these prevention steps in worksite training and plans. Also, it’s important to know and look out for the symptoms of heat-related illness in yourself and others during hot weather. Plan for an emergency and know what to do — **acting quickly can save lives**!

Hot Work Dangers – Seven Key Lessons

The OSHA hot work standard 29 CFR 1910.252, which addresses welding, cutting and brazing, and a voluntary consensus standard from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), define practices that should be implemented during the performance of hot work.

Use Alternatives – Whenever possible, avoid hot work and consider alternative methods.

Analyze the Hazards – Prior to the initiation of hot work, perform a hazard assessment.

Monitor the Atmosphere – Conduct effective gas monitoring in the work area using a properly calibrated combustible gas detector prior to and during hot work activities.

Test the Area – In work areas where flammable liquids and gases are stored or handled, drain and/or purge all equipment and piping before hot work is conducted.

Use Written Permits – Ensure that qualified personnel familiar with the specific site hazards review.

Train Thoroughly – Train personnel on hot work policies/procedures, proper use.

Supervise Contractors – Provide safety supervision for outside contractors conducting hot work.

CSB – Dust Problems – Imperial Sugars

On February 7, 2008, a huge explosion and fire occurred at the Imperial Sugar refinery northwest of Savannah, Georgia, causing 14 deaths and injuring 38 others, including 14 serious and life-threatening burns. The explosion was fueled by massive accumulations of combustible sugar dust throughout the packaging building. The Imperial Sugar manufacturing facility housed a refinery that converts raw cane sugar into granulated sugar. A system of screw and belt conveyors, and bucket elevators transported granulated sugar from the refinery to three 105-foot tall sugar storage silos. It was then transported through conveyors and bucket elevators to specialty sugar processing areas and granulated sugar packaging machines. Sugar products were packaged in four-story packing buildings that surrounded the silos, or loaded into railcars and tanker trucks in the bulk sugar loading area.

YouTube Video

CSB Report

Recognizing Hazards

National Safety Council drives home the importance of spotting and reporting hazards as well as developing safe habits which lead to a safer and more productive work environment. Simple ways to use these resources:

Share the checklist, tips and quiz with fellow employees.

Use the PowerPoint Safety-Talk at your next meeting. (Five-Minute Safety Talk PowerPoint Presentation: Hazard Recognition)

Hold a safety trivia contest with weekly prizes.

Take a group safety-walk to identify potential hazards.

Quiz Yourself – Hazardous Materials

1. A Vapor density less than 1.0 indicates the vapors of a liquid:

a) Are flammable

b) Rise naturally in the air

c) Fall naturally in the air

2. As temperature of a flammable liquid increases, amount of vapor produced:

a) Decrease

b) Remains constant

c) Increases

3. Flammable liquids standard, 1910.106(e) applies to:

a) Propane, butane, and other liquefied gases

b) Incidental use of flammable liquids at industrial plants

c) Room temperature handling and storage

4. OSHA regulations do not generally permit the use of acetylene gas at a pressure greater than:

a) 15 psig

b) 30 psig

c) 45 psig

5. Gravity fed and compressed air spray guns intended for flammable liquid spraying:

a) Must be grounded

b) Must be used inside a spray booth

c) Must be conducted in approved sprinklered spray booths

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"Safety is not an object nor something you can measure! It's a culture, a value."

Kansas Department of Labor

Information provided by OSHA QuickTakes

Answers: 1.C 2.C 3.B 4.A 5.A

This month's issue we would like to introduce two KDOL-ISH employees, Michaele Oleson, Industrial Hygienist, and Peter Polizzi, Safety Consultant.

Michaele Oleson joined KDOL as an Industrial Hygienist in March of 2016. Michaele is a graduate of University of New Mexico with a Bachelors Degree in Biochemistry. In her career, she has worked in industry as a laboratory chemist as well as working for Wyoming Dept of Agriculture and Nebraska Dept of Environmental Quality. In her spare time Michaele is enjoying traveling and getting to know the great state of Kansas.

Peter Polizzi has been a Safety Consultant with the Division of Industrial Safety and Health since June 2015. Peter is a graduate of Pittsburg State University, with a Bachelors degree in Wood Technology and Masters in Technology. He has worked as an intern for several woodworking companies all over the country.

Upcoming Events

67th Annual Safety and Health Conference - at the Double Tree by Hilton Wichita Airport, in Wichita, KS October 18 - 21, 2016.

Register: *http://www.dol.ks.gov/Safety/events.aspx*

To be put on the mailing list, contact: Dena Ackors – (785)296-4386 ext. 2305 or email: dena.ackors@dol.ks.gov

Work Comp date: Sept 27 – 28. Info at: https://www.dol.ks.gov/WorkComp/seminar.aspx

Pittsburg State University is offering OSHA #7510 – Intro to OSHA for Small Business and OSHA #7845 – OSHA Recording Keeping Rule on August 19, 2016.

Contact Patricia to register: (785) 238-8550

Cost $125 for each with a FREE Networking Lunch